

Message Text

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72

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ADP-00 EB-11 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8676

INFO AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, MA, FR

SUBJECT: FRANCO- MALAGASY NEGOTIATIONS

REF: TANANARIVE 0415

1. FOLLOWING IS UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF TEXT OF COMMUNIQUE ISSUED PARIS, MARCH 26, ON SUBJECT OF CURRENT FRANCO- MALAGASY NEGOTIATIONS.

QTE: DIDIER RATSIKAKA, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE MALAGASY GOVERNMENT AND PIERRE BILLECOQC, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS CHARGED WITH COOPERATION, HAVE HAD SEVERAL MEETINGS SINCE MARCH 15 AND HAVE EXAMINED THE MASS OF PROBLEMS POSED BY THE REVISION OF THE FRANCO- MALAGASY ACCORDS. THE TWO HEADS OF DELEGATION NOTED THAT THE CONVERSATIONS AT THE EXPERT LEVEL HAVE PERMITTED THE REALIZATION OF SERIOUS PROGRESS IN DIFFERENT AREAS OF CULTURAL, TECHNICAL AND JUDICIAL COOPERATION. THE POINTS OF DIVERGENCE WHICH STILL REMAIN HAVE BEEN DEFINED WITH A VIEW TO A GOVERNAMENTAL SETTLEMENT (ARBITRAGE). IN THE MONETARY AREA, IMPORTANT PROGRESS HAS BEEN REALIZED. IN THE MILITARY AREA, THE TWO MINISTERS HAVE NOTED THEIR COMMON DESIRE TO REACH AN ACCORD TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE DEMANDS OF MALAGASY SOVEREIGNTY. HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF THE IMMINENT RESIGNATION OF THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT, THE TWO

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DELEGATION HEADS HAVE CONCLUDED THAT THE NEGOTIATIONS CAN NOT USEFULLY BE PURSUED IN THE DAYS TO COME. THEY ARE AGREED THAT THARGUING THAT THE SOVIETS WERE VERY INTERESTED IN MAINTAINING AND BROADENING THE SALT- I LIMITED DURATION OFFENSIVE WEAPONS AGREEMENT AND THAT MOSCOW REALIZED THAT, UNDER CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCES, THIS COULD ONLY BE POSSIBLE ON THE BASIS OF " EQUALITY". FURTHER, THE FRG BELIEVED THE US POSSESSED OTHER BARGAINING INSTRUMENTS SUCH AS THE OVERWHELMING U. S. SUPERIORITY IN STRATEGIC BOMBERS, AND MIRV. AND FINALLY, THERE WAS THE NON- CIRCUMVENTION POSSIBILITY.

5. ROTH SAID THE BRITISH, FRENCH AND GERMANS ALL AGREED THAT THE SOVIETS WERE LIKELY TO PRESS AT AN EARLY POINT IN MBFR FOR REDUCTIONS IN FBS AND/ OR U. S. TACNUCS IN MBFR.

HILLENBRAND

NOTE BY OC/ T: RAISED TO EXDIS PER SSO MEMO 7/29/71.

SECRET

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